

FRIENDS OF WORCESTER
SEPTEMBER 24, 2002 - MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Kim David, Charley Muir, Charlie Lowe, Wini & Rob Hayes, Susan Coughlan, Dave Cardy, Marie Amato, George Rogers & Barbara McMonagle

Location: Home of Michael & Barbara McMonagle, 2242 Berks Road, Lansdale, PA

Agenda Preview

FOW Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of 7/31/02 \$1478.07

President's Report: Many thanks to Wini & Rob Hayes for hosting the Friends of Worcester Annual Picnic on September 7, 2002. We had a large turnout and it is always good to see some new faces.

Friends of Worcester has made a donation to the Montgomery County Lands Trust.

Worcester Township has completed open space preservation of 3 additional properties. They are 14.9 acres from the Florence Heebner estate, 22.4 acres from the Margaret Markel farm on Greenhill Road and 30 acres from the Gerstenmeier farm on Schultz Road. We commend the Supervisors on these acquisitions. Also, the Lenhart property 14.5 acres near Heebner Park is being acquired.

Membership Report: We need volunteers to help with the telephone chain. Please contact Barb McMonagle 215-699-8225.

Fundraising Report: The Farmers Union Horse Show on June 1, 2002 was a huge success. It was great exposure for FOW and well as the horse show which is the oldest in Montgomery County. In addition to the Food Booth at the Horse Show, FOW's Flea Market was a big hit. Thanks to everyone that helped! We could not have done it without you. It was a fun day! We should definitely do it again next year.

Worcester Township Meeting Reports:

Board of Supervisors: The Supervisors have approved conditional use of the Thompson/Scott tract for RPD (Rural Preservation District).

The sewer problem in Fairview Village is taking priority at meetings. Recently, State Representative John Fichter presented the township with a grant for \$750,000 towards the sewers (\$7000/home). Residents still feel the township could do more. The current cost would be approximately \$16,000 per homeowner (\$23,000 – 7,000).

Zoning Board: Nothing relevant to FOW.

Planning Commission: Working on Haganir Property on Windy Hill Road. Also, CVS is proposing plans at Germantown Pike & Trooper Roads.

Joint Planning Commission/Board of Supervisors: Frank Davey spoke about a temporary suspension of the Open Space Plan. The township has renewed its contract with the Montgomery County Planning Commission to consult with our Planning Commission 1 day per month to update the Worcester Comprehensive Plan.

Open Space: Open Space Plan being put on temporary hold. Some residents asked how the Supervisors can spend money for open space and not sewers. This proves a lot of people don't understand how open space = money saved\$\$\$.

Current Issues

Turnpike Slip Ramp - *FOW submitted a petition with approximately 400 signatures in opposition of the proposed slip ramp at Schultz & Morris Roads.* Local representatives and municipalities have taken a variety of positions regarding the slip ramps and widening of the northeast extension. **(Since our meeting, the PA Turnpike Commission has decided to discontinue plans for the slip ramps but will proceed with the widening project.)**

Worcester Township - Against
State Representative John Fichter – Against
Lansdale Boro – For
Upper Gwynedd – For
E. Norriton – Against
Towamencin – For
Montgomery County Planning Commission – For

CVS – Wini will write a letter to the Supervisors with questions and concerns regarding traffic impact, zoning variances needed, etc. for a 13,000 sq. ft. building on 3 acres.

Community Education

Newsletter - Assignments for our next newsletter were discussed.
Supervisors – Open Space on Hold – Barb & Kim
Slip Ramp Update – Wini
Sewer Problems in Fairview Village, Act 537, Grants – Marie & George
Reexamine what's happening in Harrisburg – Builders position on Open Space – Kim & Charley
Worcester Comprehensive Plan Revisions - Rob
Farmers Union Horse Show – What we did and Thank you's – Jeannie
What's Happening – New Developments – Barb
CVS – The Importance of Enforcing our Zoning Ordinances

Expand our efforts that Open Space Preservation = Lower Taxes

Website – Visit our website: <http://www.friendsofworcester.org>. Please come visit and leave your email address so we can email you the minutes. Also, please make suggestions and comments.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Please Join Us By Attending Our Monthly Meetings.

October 26, 2002 – Saturday 8:00 A.M. Home of Kim & Chris David, 1704 Berks Road, (610)584-1805

November 19, 2002 - Tuesday 7:30 P.M. Home of Barb & Mike McMonagle, 2242 Berks Road, (215)699-8225

December 29, 2002 – Sunday, FOW Christmas Party 5 P.M. Home of Wini & Rob Hayes, 3033 Fisher Road (610)584-0371

January 21, 2002 – Tuesday 7:30 P.M. Home of Charley Muir, 1901 Whitehall Road, (610)584-8472